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TAGS: PDIP, PGOV, ECRP, XR

SUBJECT: ARA WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS - MAY 17-24

1. DEVELOPMENTS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND PERU, CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS, AND PREPARATIONS FOR THE OASGA, THE PRESIDENT'S JUNE TRIP TO PANAMA, AND UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM'S CURRENT VISIT TO SOUTH AMERICA WERE HIGH ON THE LIST OF BUREAU ACTIVITIES. ALSO, THE UN SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT OPENED IN NEW YORK MAY 23.

2. AMBASSADOR TODMAN'S CONFIRMATION HEARING ON HIS APPOINTMENT AS AMBASSADOR TO SPAIN WAS HELD IN THE SENATE FOREIGN CONFIDENTIAL

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RELATIONS COMMITTEE MAY 23. THE HEARING WAS ROUTINE, WITH INDICATIONS OF RAPID CONFIRMATION.

3. DAS SALLY SHELTON TESTIFIED ON THE FOREIGN POLICY ASPECTS OF THE UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS PROBLEM BEFORE THE HOUSE INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE ON MAY 18. APPEARING WITH HER WAS AMBASSADOR MARSHALL GREEN, THE COORDINATOR FOR

POPULATION AFFAIRS. THIS STAGE OF THE HEARINGS IS AN EXPLORATION OF THE DIMENSIONS OF THE PROBLEM WITHOUT EXAMINATION OF POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS. THE HEARINGS CONTINUE WITH THE APPEARANCE OF AID ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR LALO VALDEZ ON MAY 24. (LAST WEEK THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE WOUND UP THE FIRST SET OF ITS HEARINGS ON THE ADMINISTRATION'S LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS ON UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS.)

4. REPRESENTATIVE DON FRASER OF THE HOUSE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE CALLED A HEARING MAY 23 TO EXAMINE THE ELECTIONS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND TO DETERMINE WHAT, IF ANY, EFFECT THE EVENTS THERE SHOULD HAVE ON OUR RELATIONSHIP. THE HEARINGS RECESSED AFTER TESTIMONY FROM TWO PUBLIC WITNESSES, BUT WILL BE RESUMED ONCE THERE ARE FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

5. DAS JOHN BUSHNELL VISITED LONDON AND PARIS. IN LONDON HE CONDUCTED THE ANNUAL US-UK REVIEW OF ISSUES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN. HE FOUND THE BRITISH TO BE IN SUBSTANTIAL AGREEMENT WITH US ON THE MAJOR ISSUES. IN PARIS HE ACCOMPANIED AA VALDEZ TO AN IBRD-SPONSORED MEETING OF THE CARIBBEAN GROUP POTENTIAL DONORS. WE WERE PLEASED THAT THE SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE CARIBBEAN WHICH WE INITIATED IS NOW BEING REFLECTED BY OTHER DONOR COUNTRIES AND ORGANIZATIONS, MOST OF WHICH ARE PREPARED TO SUBSTANTIAL

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TIALLY INCREASE THEIR ASSISTANCE TO THE CARIBBEAN. THE PARIS MEETING THUS PAVED THE WAY FOR A PLANNED JUNE MEETING OF THE CARIBBEAN GROUP TO CONSIDER FORMATION OF THE IBRD-PROPOSED CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT FACILITY.

6. BOLIVIA CALLED A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL TO AGAIN RAISE THE SUBJECT OF POTENTIAL U.S. TIN DISPOSALS. THE SESSION FEATURED A LONG BOLIVIAN SPEECH AND EXPRESSIONS OF SOLIDARITY BY ALL THE OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT. WE RECITED OUR COMMITMENTS TO CONSULT ON TIN DISPOSALS, BILATERALLY AND IN THE INTERNATIONAL TIN COUNCIL, IF AND WHEN WE RECEIVE CONGRESSIONAL AUTHORIZATION. THE SESSION ADJOURNED WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT WE ARE TO ADVISE WHEN WE ARE READY TO RESUME THE DISCUSSION.

7. THE NON-ALIGNED COORDINATING BUREAU MET IN HAVANA MAY 15-21 AS A PREPARATORY STEP TO THE NON-ALIGNED MINISTERIAL MEETING IN BELGRADE THIS COMING JULY AND THE NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT IN HAVANA NEXT YEAR. BEFORE THE MAY MEETING CONVENED THERE HAD BEEN SOME INDICATIONS THAT CUBA'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE HORN OF AFRICA MIGHT BECOME AN ISSUE OF CONTENTION AND THAT A FEW DELEGATIONS MIGHT EVEN QUESTION CUBA'S NON-

ALIGNED CREDENTIALS. THIS DID NOT HAPPEN, DESPITE THE
PRESENCE OF A DELEGATION FROM ZAIRE. FAR FROM CRITICIZING
CUBA, THE MEETING UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED A RESOLUTION PRAISING
CUBA FOR ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CAUSE OF NATIONAL LIBERA-
TION AND INTERNATIONAL PEACE. CHRISTOPHER

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